

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Steve Stern

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR
SIXTEENTH DISTRICT
1842 E. Jericho Turnpike, Suite P
HUNTINGTON, NY 11743



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, June 16, 2014

CONTACT: **Amanda Lindner**
LEGISLATIVE AIDE
OFFICE: 631-854-5100
Amanda.Lindner@suffolkcountyny.gov

**LEGISLATORS STEVE STERN AND ROBERT TROTTA JOIN FAMILY OF
SLAIN MOTHER TO PUSH FOR 911 HOTEL BILL**



Legislators Steve Stern emphasizes the need for hotel and business patrons to be able to directly dial 911.
Pictured from left to right: DJ and Hank Hunt, Legislator Steve Stern, Legislator Robert Trotta, hotel owner John Tsunis.

HUNTINGTON, NY – Legislator Steve Stern (D-Huntington, 16th L.D) and Legislator Robert Trotta (R-Smithtown, 13th L.D.) joined the Hunt family June 12 at the Holiday Inn Express in Stony Brook to stress the need for hotel and business patrons and workers to be able to directly dial 911 in an emergency.

What if when you dialed 911, the number didn't work? That's what happened last year when a 9-year-old girl attempted to call police when her mother, Kari Hunt Dunn, 31, was attacked in their Texas hotel room. The child didn't realize that she needed to dial "9" before 911 for an outgoing call. Kari died in the attack.

"Kari's daughter did exactly what she was taught to do in an emergency. She called 911, and no one picked up. With this bill, we hope that what happened to Kari will never happen to any of our loved ones here in Suffolk County," Legislator Stern said.

The 911 Hotel Bill would require that all hotel and business phone lines in Suffolk County have the ability to directly dial 911, without the need to dial “9,” or any other number before reaching emergency personnel. “I thank Legislator Stern and Legislator Trotta for their work to bring this initiative to Suffolk County. To see this bill passed would be a relief on my part that she did not die in vain,” Hank Hunt, Kari’s father said of his daughter.

“In an emergency, seconds matter,” Legislator Stern said. “Even an adult in a state of an emergency, such as a heart attack, stroke or dangerous situation, may not have the mindset to dial “9” before 911. Seconds matter in an emergency and I hope to see Suffolk County lead the way for the rest of the state and nation in this potentially life-saving safety initiative.”